

## Message Text

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ORIGIN CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-06 /022 R

DRAFTED BY CU/EE:WTPRYCE:AMM

APPROVED BY CU/EE:YRICHMOND

EUR/SOV:FDEMARZO

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

USIA/IEU:DMOXHAY; CU:STSTULL

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R 241557Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET JOURNALIST EXCHANGES

REF: A. MOSCOW 7386; B. STATE 158153

1. DURING SEP 15 MEETING IN DEPT, KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA CHIEF EDITOR, LEV KORNESHOV, WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF SOVIET JOURNALIST DELEGATION CURRENTLY IN U.S. UNDER COMMUNIST YOUTH ORGANIZATION (CYO)-AMERICAN COUNCIL OF YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS (ACYPL) JOURNALIST EXCHANGE, EXPRESSED INTEREST IN EXPANDING EXCHANGES OF JOURNALISTS. KORNESHOV WAS SPEAKING IN CONTEXT OF CYO-ACYPL EXCHANGE BUT THIS DOES NOT NECESSARILY RULE OUT OTHER POSSIBILITIES.

2. WE ARE VERY PLEASED WITH CALIBER OF PRESENT CYO JOURNALIST DELEGATION, WHICH IS TWO YEARS YOUNGER ON THE AVERAGE (33 VICE 35) THAN FIRST DELEGATION WHICH CAME LAST JANUARY, APPEARS SHARPER, AND ALSO INCLUDES TEN JOURNALISTS VISITING U.S. FOR THE FIRST TIME. WE ARE INTERESTED IN EXPANDING JOURNALIST EXCHANGES, BOTH WITH CYO AND OTHER SOVIET ORGANIZATIONS, IF SOVIETS WILLING SEND YOUNGER JOURNALISTS WHO HAVE NOT PREVIOUSLY VISITED U.S.

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3. THIS CONNECTION, RETURN TO USSR OF KORNISHOV AND HIS DELEGATION ON SEP 28 PROVIDES OPPORTUNITY FOR EMBASSY TO RE-NEW DISCUSSIONS OF EXCHANGE OF POLITICAL JOURNALISTS WITH UNION OF JOURNALISTS. DEPT PREPARED RECEIVE DELEGATION OF 5 JOURNALISTS FOR THREE WEEK VISIT THIS FALL, SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS AND CAVEATS MENTIONED REFTEL B. (WE BELIEVE IT MOST IMPORTANT THAT DELEGATIONS SHOULD CONSIST OF MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT VISITED RECEIVING COUNTRY PREVIOUSLY.) DEPT WOULD PROGRAM SOVDEL THROUGH PROGRAMMING AGENCY SUCH AS MHI/VPS, AND WOULD WORK THROUGH US ORGANIZATION SUCH AS AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NEWSPAPER EDITORS TO SELECT USDEL WHICH COULD TRAVEL IN WINTER OR SPRING. ROBINSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 SEP 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE227498  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** WTPRYCE:AMM  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750332-0001  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 73  
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**Office:** ORIGIN CU  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 MOSCOW 7386, 75 STATE 158153  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 OCT 2003 by ElyME>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOVIET JOURNALIST EXCHANGES  
**TAGS:** OEXC, UR  
**To:** MOSCOW  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006